



March 21, 2017

Manitoba Hunter Jumper Association Board Meeting

7:00 PM

1. Call to order and welcome – Andrew Curry (President)
2. Attendance register
 - Present: Andrew Curry (President), Carol Lavalee (First Vice-President), Leslie Bachynski, Sean Adams, John Biron, John Savard, Hugh Crawley, Elizabeth Abraham, Jennifer McPhail, Marlo Glass, Nadine DeKoning
 - Regrets: Jaime Penner, Catherine McCullagh, Hayley Bembridge, Billy Wiltshire, Erin Turski
 - Absent: Patti Alfonso
3. Quorum
 - The president confirmed that a quorum of Board members was present, and the meeting was validly constituted to conduct business
4. Approval of minutes from February 7th meeting
 - Amendment needed – Claire Harris removed from board and no longer Immediate Past President
5. Chair Reports
 - 5.1 Sponsorship Report – John Savard
 - John Savard accepted position as President of Manitoba Horse Council (MHC) – as such, he will need to step down from the MHJA board
 - Sponsorship brochures will arrive March 22, 2017
 - 5.2 Show Committee Report – Andrew Curry
 - Prize list will be ready shortly

- Some changes for 2017 to include Top 4/5 Year Old Canadian Hunter/Jumper, along with other Breeder awards
- Course designers and other officials booked for all shows and flights in process of being booked – new officials from out of town this year
- New app, “Hopper”, used to get better deals on rates
- Andrew has approached Hunter judge at Heart of the Continent about holding an “Ask the Judge” session – will report back

5.3 Membership/Volunteer Report – Jennifer McPhail

- Membership numbers are low – only at 52 to date
- Some new members thus far, many from out of town (likely due to imminence of Winter Fair)
- Request to maintain same budget for Volunteer awards as the 2016 season
- Jennifer McPhail suggested using Google Document spreadsheet to help track volunteers – will investigate further
- Painting party scheduling to be pursued by Jennifer McPhail, in conjunction with Pony Club

5.4 Athlete Development Report – Elizabeth Abraham

- John Savard recommended searching Manitoba Horse Council grants – club funding must be used for a specific project
- John Biron recommended tapping into Jump Canada grants (frequently tied into specific levels of shows, or specific projects)
- Nadine DeKoning suggested sponsoring clinician to visit several stables individually – Elizabeth Abraham collecting names and will follow up for next meeting

5.5 Communications Report – Marlo Glass

- Membership form posted online approximately six weeks ago
- Show dates posted online and on MHC website
- Leslie Bachynski suggested sending out a regular MHJA letter (news, updates, general interest...) to keep in contact with members – she and Marlo Glass will look into setting up monthly newsletter
- John Biron suggested setting up a form for riders to provide commentator information to read for big classes at the shows

5.6 Treasurer Report – Hugh Crawley

- Not much activity to report – no items of concern
- Awards banquet from last year temporarily reflected in expenses for 2017, due to timing on the credit card invoice

5.7 Equipment Report – Jamie Penner

- No report at this time

5.8 Marketing Report – Nadine DeKoning

- See discussion under marketing report

5.9 MHC Report – John Biron

- EHV-1 virus has prompted MHC to create panel at Royal Manitoba Winter Fair to discuss biosecurity

5.10 Special events Report

- Awards banquet booked October 21, 2017 at Breezy Bend Golf Course

6. Discussion of marketing survey- Nadine DeKoning

- 10 responses
- Strategy within individual responses fluctuated significantly
- Common trends:
 - The words “Fun”, “Teamwork”, and “Passion” were ranked as the top three
 - Majority of respondents want to compete on both price **and** quality, if circumstances allow

7. Short/long term goals of MHJA

- Nadine DeKoning recommended scheduling a larger discussion on the identity of MHJA before setting any further goals
- Jennifer McPhail suggested individual thought be put towards the club identity as well to help shape the conversation
- Andrew Curry noted the MHJA constitution itself is very broad in its definition and purpose
- Lots of general discussion and ideas for progression ensued – Nadine DeKoning will follow up with strategies to shape the discussion

8. Membership requirement for MHJA schooling shows – Andrew Curry

- Membership has not been required for MHJA schooling shows
- Andrew Curry raised question if MHJA should follow the lead of Brandon Light Horse and require memberships

- John Biron suggested having a separate category for people attending schooling shows – debate on this point from multiple angles
- Sean Adams raised the issue of multiple horse show organizations stretching competitors thin and the possible need for a broader discussion to coordinate
- Jennifer McPhail brought up the previous suggestion of designated people to direct questions to at shows and educate those on the field of play
- Hugh Crawley suggested attempting to spread awareness of schooling shows through MHC, in order to reach a broader audience
- Question to be deferred to October 2017, once more data collected

9. Distribution of Sponsorship Brochures

- Past sponsors to be mailed brochures by John Savard
- Many sponsors to be contacted during Royal Manitoba Winter Fair
- All sponsors with Board member contact to be approached by said contact

10. New business:

10.1 EHM Outbreak – John Biron

- Variant of Equine Herpes Virus, carried by many individuals
- 105 horses in western Manitoba affected to date, 8 of which have currently died – all cases reported have been quarantined for 21 days
- Potential financial impact on horse operations is severe within a short period of time
- John Biron recommended a mandatory Proof of Vaccination against Flu/Rhino for 2017 – intensive discussion followed
- **Motion in Principle to create a Proof of Vaccination form for MHJA horse shows**
Proposed: John Biron. Seconded: Jennifer McPhail
- For: 10, Against: 0, Abstain: 1 - motion carried

11. Next Board meeting: Tuesday April 25 @ 7pm - PLEASE DIARIZE!!

12. Motion to terminate - **9:10 PM**

“Sean Adams, Secretary”